

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 15 and 29-38 are pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

The applicants are pleased to note that the Office Action mailed September 24, 2004 advises at page 3 that independent claims 15 and 29-38 are allowable.

Claim Amendments

By the present amendment, claims 28 and 39 have been canceled.

§112, ¶2

Claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In view of the present amendment canceling claim 39, this rejection is now moot.

§102

Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kotowski et al. (PL 157499; abstract only).

In view of the present amendment canceling claim 28, this rejection is now moot.

Advisory Action

The Advisory Action mailed January 19, 2005 advised that amended claims 28 and 39 of the Rule 116 Amendment filed December 27, 2004 (Certificate of Mailing dated

December 21, 2004) would not be entered because they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search.

By the present amendment, claims 28 and 39 have been canceled.

It is therefore submitted that by the present amendment the application is now in condition for allowance with the allowed claims being claims 15 and 29-38.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that in view of the present amendment and foregoing remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that the application, as amended, be allowed and passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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